

AGENDA ITEM VI C

PROGRESS REPORT ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAM

LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

PH.D. IN AUDIOLOGY

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At its meeting in August 2003, the Board of Regents took the following action:

Conditional approval is granted for the request from Louisiana Tech University to establish a Doctor of Audiology program (CIP Code 51.0202). The implementation date of this program shall be set once the University has engaged the services of two new Ph.D. in Audiology faculty to partially staff the program. Beginning June 1, 2004, the University shall submit annual reports to the Commissioner of Higher Education until all consultants recommendations have been fulfilled.

Further, the staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee grant continued maintenance of the M.A. in Speech Pathology-Audiology (Audiology Option) program (CIP Code 51.0204) at Louisiana Tech University through AY 2005-2006, at which time the need for this program shall be reconsidered.

STAFF ANALYSIS

In April 2004, the staff received a letter from Dr. Ken Rea, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Louisiana Tech, which indicated that 2 new Ph.D. in Audiology faculty had been hired by the University. These faculty will begin employment starting Fall Quarter, 2004. It would appear then that the University will shortly have the necessary faculty resources to begin program implementation.

STAFF SUMMARY

The staff believes that Louisiana Tech is ready to begin offering the Ph.D. program in Audiology beginning Fall Quarter, 2004. With regard to the required progress report due in June 2004, the staff suggests that this due date be extended until January 15, 2005, so that the University and program can benefit from the expertise of the two new faculty in formulating their response to unresolved consultants' concerns.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee receive the AY 2004 Progress Report from Louisiana Tech University Relative to Hiring of New Faculty to Staff the Ph.D. Program in Audiology. As a result of this report, the University is hereby authorized to begin offering this program starting Fall Quarter, 2004. The due date for receipt of a progress report on program implementation is hereby extended to January 15, 2005.